

**VILLAGE OF CRIDERSVILLE COUNCIL MINUTES**  
**Regular Meeting –November 11, 2019**

Call to Order  
Pledge of Allegiance  
Roll Call

Present—Mayor Rick Walls, Council members: Joe Bailey, Eric West, Dorance Thompson, Frank Oen, Rick Allen and Stacey Cook. Also present: Financial Officer Susan Bassitt, Village Administrator Jarid Kohlrieser, Solicitor Angela Elliot Police Chief Paul Robbins and Fire Chief Rick Miller.

It was moved by West, seconded by Cook to accept the minutes of the October 21, 2019 regular Council meeting as written. Motion passed 6-0.

**COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

Committee of the Whole: No Report

**Utilities & Surface Water:** Joe Bailey reported that Village crews completed the annual fall hydrant flushing program and drained them for winter. They also have a hydrant that needs repaired on the corner of Woodridge and Briarwood which will be completed in the next couple weeks. They also dug and replaced a water service at 11 Amy Dr. The crews also dug and repaired a storm tile along Marcella.

**Planning:** No report

**Finance:** No Report. The Finance Committee meeting scheduled for November 7<sup>th</sup> then changed to November 6<sup>th</sup> was cancelled due to improper advertising.

**Park:** Stacey Cook reported that they may have found a mason to complete the Legacy Park entrance gateway. The mason has been given the plans to look at and they are waiting to hear back from him with an estimate. If he is chosen to complete the project, it won't be able to be done until spring of 2020. She also said there were two (2) picnic tables donated by Tony Zuppardo and the village crew stripped and repainted them to match the other picnic tables in town. Those tables were placed by the playground area in Legacy Park.

**Streets:** Dorance Thompson said he met with Jarid by the old school and decided there will be 10 parallel parking spots, one of which will be handicapped put along Water Street. He said the village crew will mark the spots as soon as the weather permits. There was a committee meeting on October 28<sup>th</sup> about the parking on Gay St. affecting 120 and 200 W. Main St. There can't be any parking within thirty (30) feet of the stop sign at the corner of Gay and Main Streets per the Ohio Revised Code. Dorance said they discussed putting up "Public Parking" signs. Chief Robbins spoke with Stephanie Unrue from the salon at 200 W. Main and that she said she was okay with paying for a survey if she disagreed with the Village's determination of the public right of way. She expressed to him that she just wanted an answer about the parking either way. Chief Robbins said Jarid had mentioned that when street resurfacing is necessary in that area, a survey (by the Village) will be necessary and a determination could be made at that time to change to parallel parking. Chief Robbins said he also mentioned the no parking within thirty (30) feet of the stop sign to the Bear's Den as well.

**Properties:** Frank Oen said the 2009 John Deere skid steer had some much needed repairs and maintenance done by the dealer in Lima at a cost of \$3,318.15. This was the first time the machine needed taken to the dealer since it was purchased.

**Safety:** Police Chief Robbins reported there were 152 calls for service in October for a total of 1549 for the year. There was \$1,460.00 collected into Mayor's Court. He said the only other thing he had was the parking on Gay Street which was already discussed.

Eric West asked Paul how his personal overtime was going. The Chief responded that it is high right now. One of his part time officers is off a couple weeks with a new baby. The Chief feels the family time is important. And another had a knee issue and is in a brace, so he is off until that is resolved.

Frank Oen said there seems to be a misunderstanding with the Chief taking the unmarked police car home in that the Chief is not putting the decals on when he takes it home as agreed. Chief Robbins responded that he understood that he only needed the decals on the car when he is responding to an emergency situation with lights and sirens. The Mayor said to put them on the car.

Fire Chief Rick Miller said there were 55 EMS calls and 8 Fire calls in October for a total 630 calls for the year, which he said are more than last year. They are accepting donations for their Helping Hands at Christmas program. They have received two (2) monetary donations from local businesses. They are waiting to hear if they will receive a grant from Walmart. Mayor Walls asked how his personnel were holding up with so many calls. Chief Miller said he has forty four (44) volunteers with two (2) in EMT school and one in Fire school and said they are plugging along. The Mayor stated that is a lot of calls for a volunteer department and that many paid departments don't have that many runs. He commended Chief Miller and the Fire department for doing such a great job.

#### OLD BUSINESS:

Mayor Walls introduced **RESOLUTION #1693, AN ORDINANCE ESTABLISHING CERTAIN RATES OF PAY, HEALTH AND HOSPITALIZATION INSURANCE, SICK LEAVE, PAID HOLIDAYS AND VACATION FOR ALL NON-ELECTED Village Employees for the year 2020**. A motion to read by title only for its second of three readings was made West, seconded by Bailey. Motion passed 6-0. The Mayor read the resolution by title only. Stacey Cook asked if the finance committee meeting to discuss the ordinance that was cancelled will be rescheduled. She said she had a few things she would like to go over. The Mayor said that now was the time to do it. She said she went through the numbers sees the 51 days that Rick Allen brought up was for twenty year employees. Eric West added that there are only three (3) employees that could ever fall under that and get the 51 days if they used everything given. She then asked for clarification of Section Five: Health and Hospitalization Insurance. The first paragraph refers to "health and hospitalization insurance" while the second paragraph says "health and hospitalization, including life and dental insurance". It was agreed the first paragraph should read the same as the second. She asked for clarification in the second paragraph stating "the Village shall pay up to a maximum of three hundred (\$300.00) for a single person plan, then it says the Village will also pay eighty-five (85) percent of the monthly premium in excess of \$300.00. Susan Bassitt explained that means if a single person's policy has a monthly premium over \$300.00, the Village will pay the \$300.00 then will pay eight-five (85) percent of the policy premium amount over \$300.00. Her next question was about the last line on page 4, about clerical personal time. Eric explained that paragraph was added a few years ago when council took away some paid holidays and cut some vacation time. The question came up about the clerical staff being paid some personal time. Council agreed they should as they were part time but worked a regular weekly schedule, so they decided they would be given paid personal time equal to twice of their regularly scheduled hours, whether they worked twenty-five (25) hours or thirty (30) hours. Stacey then referred to the fourth paragraph on page 6 under Section Nine: Miscellaneous. The ordinance states "any full-time salaried employees who work more than his or her scheduled maximum work hours.....become entitled to comp time". Stacey said that when council changed the Police Chief to salary, they took into consideration and included an expected two hundred (200) hours of overtime. So she is not sure he should be eligible for comp time. Susan Bassitt stated that no one has ever used any comp-time in the past and that her payroll software is not even set up to use it. Stacey then asked if there was going to be another committee meeting. Eric said that if this hasn't addressed her issues, and if anyone else has any other issues, then he will certainly schedule another committee meeting to further discuss it. But if it can all be addressed tonight then there wouldn't need to be one.

Stacey then asked the other council members what they thought about residents comments last month about the Village using money frivolously. She added that comments were made that if council found it necessary to ask for a tax levy, they would fight against it. She said that with all the paperwork they get, were could that be happening? Eric responded that unfortunately, and it comes a lot from our leadership, that we are negatively policing our Village to the press and the patrons of our Village. He said that it has become the norm around here instead of us portraying ourselves in a positive light. He said the budget is less than last year. He then pointed out how much regular expenses such as utilities, keep increasing but the Village's income keeps getting cut such as Local Government funding and inheritance

tax etc. He said he feels the Administrator and Police Chief have made cuts and that the council members look at the reports and see that cuts have been made. He doesn't see where there is any frivolous spending. He added that no one has said the Village is going to go to the voters after an additional levy. He said Village officers have been watching the numbers for years and additional revenue has to be found. The Mayor added that this is something the Village has to fix ourselves, there will be no help from the state or county. The solicitor said the state is trying to get small communities to dissolve. A lengthy discussion followed about how to get better information out to the public so they understand the Village isn't doing everything wrong. It was decided a Public Meeting will be held after the first of the year to help educate the residents.

The Mayor brought council's attention back to the ordinance at hand that needs voted on. Eric asked each council member individually if they had anything to discuss on the pay ordinance. Each and every member of council said they did not. The Mayor asked for a motion to pass Ordinance #1693, establishing certain rates of pay and hospitalization insurance, sick leave, paid holidays and vacation for all non-elected village employees for the year 2020 for its second reading. Motion was made by West and seconded by Thompson. Motion passed 6-0.

NEW BUSINESS:

Mayor Walls introduced **Resolution #2382, TO APPROVE THE NECESSARY TRANSFER OF FUNDS FOR THE VILLAGE OF CRIDERSVILLE AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY FOR THE YEAR 2019 AS FOLLOWS.** Motion to read by title only and declare an emergency was made by Thompson and seconded by Bailey. Motion passed 6-0. The Mayor read the resolution by title only. Susan Bassitt explained it was a resolution to transfer money into debt service accounts to pay semi-annual loan payments on street repair loans and water plant and sewer plant loans. Motion to accept Resolution #2362 as read and declaring an emergency was made by West and seconded by Bailey. Motion passed 6-0.

Dorance Thompson thanked the guys for clearing the snow so everyone could make it to the meeting tonight.

Eric asked if there is a procedure for when a meeting is changed or scheduled as to how to notify the newspaper. The Mayor said there is now, and that he will call Susan and Jarid and they will take care of it.

Stacey reminded the community of the following upcoming events:

The Lyon's Club Breakfast with Santa will be November 30<sup>th</sup> at 9:00a.m. at the Criderville UM Church. The Cridersville Heathcare Center provides breakfast so the event is free to the public.

Christmas on Main Street is December 14<sup>th</sup> from 9:00a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

Cridersville Fire Department is having a Pancake breakfast with proceeds going to Right to Read week at the school. It starts at 8:00a.m. on December 14<sup>th</sup> at the Fire Station.

The Annual Community Christmas Tree Lighting is on December 2<sup>nd</sup> at 6:00p.m. at the log cabin.

Larry Drain, the Village code enforcement officer said he is only working about an hour and a half a week. The door tags he has used are showing progress. Things are being taken care of.

Susan Bassitt asked council if they would like to be a part of the Budgeting process this year. They all said they did so a Committee of the Whole was scheduled for December 3<sup>rd</sup> and 6:00p.m. to work on the 2020 budget.

Motion to adjourn was made by Cook and seconded by West. Motion passed 6-0

  
Susan Bassitt, Village Fiscal Officer

  
Rick Walls, Mayor